

CITY OF SANTA FE

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-XX

SANTA FE COUNTY

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INTRODUCED BY:

City Councilor Patti Bushee

County Commissioner

A RESOLUTION

TO SUPPORT DEVELOPING A GRAND UNIFIED TRAIL SYSTEM (GUTS) IN AND AROUND THE CITY OF SANTA FE, AND DIRECTING CITY AND COUNTY STAFF TO WORK WITH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERS TO HELP ACHIEVE THE “GUTS” VISION.

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Fe’s Dale Ball, La Tierra, Dorothy Stewart, and Sun Mountain Trails, along with various city trails found in residential subdivisions, provide a network of over 50 miles of multi-use, natural-surface trails that are enjoyed by hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrians,

WHEREAS Santa Fe County’s open space and trail network, including Arroyo Hondo Open Space Trails, the La Piedra Trail, the Little Tesuque Trail, the Talaya Hill portion of Dale Ball Trails, the County Rail Trail and Spur Trail, and the El Camino Real Retracement Trail, currently under design, represents a vast additional resource that complements and connects out from City trails,

WHEREAS natural-surface trails belonging to the Santa Fe National Forest and various public trail easements on private land in our area, provide further connections, and opportunities to connect, to City and County trails and to the communities served by these trails,

WHEREAS the City of Santa Fe and Santa Fe County continue to invest in and improve a network of urban paved trails that play important recreation and transportation functions and are accessible to residents and visitors of various levels of ability,

WHEREAS significant gaps remain to fully connect City trails, County trails, and forest trails to each other, and to other desirable destinations for trail users,

WHEREAS connectivity between trail systems enhances safety, recreation, transportation, and the overall value and allure of the trail system,

WHEREAS the Santa Fe Metropolitan Bicycle Master Plan, the City’s La Tierra Trails Master Plan, and the County’s Sustainable Growth Management Plan, call for the development of trail connections from the city center to its periphery and beyond,

WHEREAS an inter-connected trail system is a desirable way to improve economic development, health, and preservation and education around natural and historic resources in our area,

WHEREAS the bicycling environment in the Santa Fe area has been recognized at the “silver” level by both the League of American Bicyclists and the International Mountain Biking Association, and in both cases efforts are underway to improve the level of recognition to the “gold” level,

WHEREAS the City and County of Santa Fe have embraced the promotion of outdoor “adventure” tourism and outdoors-related businesses as an important area of economic strategy,

WHEREAS planning toward a Grand Unified Trail System (GUTS) is being undertaken by private and public partners including the Santa Fe Fat Tire Society, the Santa Fe County Horse Coalition, the Trails Alliance of Santa Fe, The Nature Conservancy, The Commonweal Conservancy, the Santa Fe Conservation Trust, and the New Mexico Department of Health

WHEREAS these partners are expressing their commitment to the GUTS effort by signing a GUTS Partnership Agreement,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODIES OF THE CITY OF SANTA FE AND SANTA FE COUNTY that the City and County shall support the GUTS Initiative,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that staff is directed to work with private and public sector partners to help achieve the GUTS vision of “an interconnected trail system that allows non-motorized users to travel in a loop around the greater Santa Fe area as well as between the city center and the periphery.”

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this XX day of September, 2015.

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